

**FAQ – International Trip  
Hong Kong – China – Thailand  
September 2010**

1. The trip starts on Monday, September 20, 2010 at lunch and ends on Sunday, September 26, 2010 at breakfast.
2. Your reservation at the Shangri-la Hotel in Hong Kong is confirmed. All reservations at the Shangri-la are made under a special Pepperdine reservation number. The hotel will not have a reservation under your name, so calling the hotel prior to your arrival there will only cause confusion.
3. You will have a room at Shangri-La in Kowloon side of Hong Kong, starting at 7:00am on Monday and you have late check out from Ascott in Bangkok on Sunday night by 10:00pm.
4. If you are planning to go early or stay longer and you want to try to secure the special group rate, please contact Chris Balciyan at European travel (chris@europtours.com). He coordinates this trip on behalf of Pepperdine and can be reached at 818-842-7500 x106. He might be able to help you, but always use your own travel agent.
5. Pepperdine is not involved with any travel arrangements or hotel accommodations made for travel prior to and after the educational trip. It is your responsibility to plan and coordinate this travel on your own.
6. Pepperdine pays for your hotel-single room, food, local transportation including the trip to China.
7. Food: We are eating at excellent places and you always have several choices. If you have specific requests, let us know so we will be sure that we will have for you what you need to eat.
8. You are responsible for your air transportation and for your transfers from the airport to the hotel.
9. Flight Information  
Please use a travel agent that you feel comfortable to work with. International trips always increase anxiety. The latest flight you can take from the US to Hong Kong is on Saturday at about midnight. There are several airlines which can bring you there by 6:00am on Monday, September 20, 2010. Given the night flight and the arrival time, it works very well and you will have no jet lag. For your information, a number of students have chosen to go there a few days earlier. If you will do that and need to stay at the Shangri-La, an expensive 5 Star hotel, always we can connect you with the agent we are using. I am sure they can offer you the Pepperdine rate.

10. For your departure from Hong Kong to Bangkok on Wednesday, September 22, 2010 try to find a flight departing between 2:00pm-3:00pm in the afternoon. There are several airlines. As a second choice, go for the 3:00pm – 5:00pm departure times.
11. Returning from Thailand, our educational program ends on Saturday, September 25, 2010 at 3:00pm. Most people are departing on Sunday. You will have your room until 10:00pm. Given the time differences, even if you depart at 10:00pm in the evening on Sunday, you will arrive at LAX at about 8:00pm in the evening on the same day. Several people have chosen to extend their trip and most of the time they have their significant others to join them at that time.
12. During the trip, you are not allowed to have your significant others with you.
13. You will need a valid Passport. If you do not have one, you may apply for one at [http://www.travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_1738.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html)
14. Do I need a Visa?  
If you are a US citizen, you do not have to have a prior Visa to visit Hong Kong and Thailand. However, you do need a Visa for China. The best way to get a China Visa is to visit the Chinese Council. You can get an online form as well. When filling out the form, use as the reason for traveling to Shenzhen, China is **TOURISIM**. This is the least complicated way to get your Visa.
15. Are there any health concerns in the countries we will visit?  
Generally, no. Personally, I do not take any vaccinations. You should however check with your doctor. Furthermore, check the CDC website at <http://cdc.gov/travel>
16. When I am giving entry Visa and custom forms at customs, how long do I need to keep them?  
You should keep them in your passport until you depart from the country. You will be asked to turn them in when you leave the foreign country.
17. What are some definite No-No's at the customs and immigration?  
Do NOT take pictures  
Do NOT use cell phones
18. Is there a pre-program orientation?  
Yes, Dr. Demos and/or other faculty will be available during one of your classes prior to your departure. You can always email Rachel Todd, [Rachel.Todd@pepperdine.edu](mailto:Rachel.Todd@pepperdine.edu), cc your class advisor and cc Dr. Demos at [demosvardiabasis@yahoo.com](mailto:demosvardiabasis@yahoo.com). You will receive an answer to your question.

### 19. What if you have to cancel your trip?

Cancellations 90 days and more before the trip .....	Zero (0) Penalty
Cancellations 61 days – 89 days before the trip.....	10% Penalty
Cancellations 46 days – 60 days before the trip.....	30% Penalty
Cancellations 30 days – 45 days before the trip.....	50% Penalty
Cancellations 10 days- 29 days before the trip.....	75% Penalty
Cancellations less than 10 days before the trip.....	100% Penalty

### 20. What should we expect from the trip?

Previous participants indicated that it was the highlight of the MBA program. See the attachment of some of their comments. You will be invited and welcome to post your comments after the trip. It is important for you to set your realistic expectations, establish your priorities and fulfill them. Faculty will do its best to eliminate travel related anxiety.

### 21. What are my obligations during the trip?

- Do not be late to the meetings. Buses will leave promptly at the announced time
- Conduct yourself professionally during the meetings
- Beware of cultural differences
- Patience and self restraint are more important abroad than in the US
- Follow directions given by the faculty
- You are responsible for acting prudently
- Exercise caution and common sense at all times
- Do not get intoxicated
- You are essentially an ambassador for the University
- If for whatever reason you become disturbed, inform one of the faculty at once
- If there is a health related emergency, inform the faculty right away
- Be open to understand the differences in ethical considerations. When differences are noted, discuss them with the faculty and use these differences as learning experiences instead of imposing on different nations US standards.
- Do not argue with our speakers in front of their employees. If you have questions/different views, talk with them in private or consult with the faculty.
- Reach out and interact with students from the other classes. Best time is during meals. When we are using buses, try to sit next to people you know. Always, anxiety increases during traffic hours.
- In front of our host, you should call me Professor Demos and please do the same with all other professors with us.
- Transportation – upon your arrival in Hong Kong, you can easily find a limousine, taxi or even a subway to the hotel.
- Electrical equipment needs “round pin” adaptors. Purchase prior to your travel.
- You will have access to internet in our hotels.
- Laptops – not required.

- Alcohol – Pepperdine does not provide alcohol. If you choose to purchase, please notify the server that you will pay separately at your own cost. Please avoid intoxication.
- Ask questions, but be respectful and gracious.
- Shenzhen, China - is the first Special Economic Zone of China, established in 1980. Before that, it was a very small fishing village with 20,000 residents. Now, has over 10 million.
- Thailand – Land of Smiles. Avoid making bad comments about the King and their political systems. Likewise in China.
- Passport: Leave a color copy here with someone who can fax or email it in case it gets lost.
- Call credit card companies and ATM's and inform them that you will use them out of the country.
- You can get local currency at the airports upon our arrival and also at our hotel or banks. Most convenient are the ATM machines.